

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and as amended in the March 25, 2004 Amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 9-11, 13-14 and 22-46 are presently active in this case, Claims 22-37 have been previously withdrawn from consideration, and Claims 1, 11 and 13 amended by way of the present amendment.

The present Supplemental Amendment is submitted in order to clarify the claims in relation to the arguments submitted in the March 25, 2004 amendment, and further to correct a typographical error to Claim 13 and to correct the claim designations of Claims 27-37 in the Amendment filed March 25, 2004. Specifically, the March 25th Amendment distinguished independent Claims 1 and 11 over the cited reference to White et al. in part because the “robots” illustrated in Figures 4-6 of White et al. are used to load wafers between multiple processing chambers rather than only transferring substrates between the heating process chamber and a load lock chamber as described with respect to the present invention. The present Supplemental Amendment is submitted in order to clarify this distinction in independent Claims 1 and 11. In this regard, Applicants note that the movement of the transfer arm is in just one direction. Thus, the limitation “the transfer arm also transfers the substrate between the main transfer mechanism and the heating process chamber through the opening” and Claims 1 and 11 were not intended to mean that the transfer arm also transfers the substrate to the heating process chamber, but that the main transfer mechanism collects the substrate disposed on the transfer arm through the opening”. Independent Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to clarify this feature. In addition, Claim 13 has been amended to recite the range 15°C to 25°C in order to correct the typographical error. Finally, Applicants note that the March 25th Amendment designated Claims 28-37 as “previously presented”

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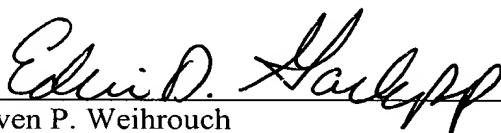
Further to the amendment filed March 2, 2004 and in
response to Office Action dated November 25, 2003

when these claims have been withdrawn by the Examiner in the Official Action mailed July 1, 2003.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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